Serial No.: 10/531,499 Filing Date: 4/15/2005

Attorney Docket No. 215.003US01

Title: POSITION SENSING APPARATUS AND METHOD

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

- 1. (Cancelled)
- 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Cancelled)
- 4. (Cancelled)
- 5. (Cancelled)
- 6. (Cancelled)
- 7. (Cancelled)
- 8. (Currently Amended) The position sensor according to claim 7, A position sensor comprising:

first and second members which are movable relative to each other along a measurement path, the first member comprising an excitation winding and the second member comprising first and second resonators spaced apart along the measurement path;

an excitation signal generator operable to generate an excitation signal and to apply the excitation signal to the excitation winding to induce a first resonant signal in the first resonator and a second resonant signal in the second resonator; and

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an analyser operable to analyse the first and second resonant signals to determine a value representative of the relative position along the measurement path of the first and second members, the analyser operable to measure a phase of a signal formed by a weighted combination of the first and second resonant signals;

wherein the analyser is operable to generate a second signal at a frequency different from that of the excitation signal, and to mix the second signal with the signal formed by a weighted combination of the first and second resonant signals to generate a third signal having a frequency component equal to the difference between the frequency of the excitation signal and that of the second signal, and to determine the said value from the phase of the third signal[[,1]];

wherein the excitation winding and the first resonator have a first electromagnetic coupling which varies with the relative position along the measurement path of the first and second members in accordance with a first function, and the excitation winding and the second resonator have a second electromagnetic coupling which varies with said relative position in accordance with a second function different from the first function, and wherein the first resonator is operable to introduce a first phase shift into the first resonant signal and the second resonator is operable to introduce a second phase shift, which is different from the first phase shift by one quarter of a cycle, into the second resonant signal.

- (Currently Amended) The position sensor according to claim [[1]]8, wherein the first
 and second members are relatively movable along a rectilinear direction.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The position sensor according to claim [[1]]8, wherein the excitation winding is formed by a conductive track on a planar substrate.
- 11. (Previously Presented) The position sensor according to claim 10, wherein the planar substrate is a printed circuit board.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

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12. (Previously Presented) The position sensor according to claim 10, wherein the excitation winding effectively comprises a plurality of loops arranged so that current flowing through the excitation winding flows around at least one of the loops in an opposite direction to at least one other of the loops.

13. (Currently Amended) The position sensor according to claim [[1]]8, wherein at least one of said first and second resonators comprises a passive resonant circuit.

14. (Currently Amended) The position sensor according to claim [[1]]8, wherein at least one of said first and second resonators comprises an amplifier for amplifying the power of a signal induced in the resonator.

15. (Currently Amended) The position sensor according to claim [[1]]8, wherein the first and second resonators comprise respective conductive tracks formed on a planar substrate.

16. (Previously Presented) The position sensor according to claim 15, wherein the planar substrate is a printed circuit board.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The position sensor according to claim [[1]]8, wherein the excitation signal comprises a sinusoidal component at 1 MHz.

21. (Cancelled)

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22. (New) The position sensor of claim 8, where the first resonator exhibits resonance in response to a first range of frequencies about a first resonant frequency and the second resonator exhibits resonance in response to a second range of frequencies about a second resonant frequency which is different from the first resonant frequency, the first and second ranges overlapping,

wherein the excitation generator is operable to generate an excitation signal having a frequency component which induces the first and second resonant signals in the first and second resonators respectively.